8th February 1924]

Sub-Assistant Surgeons over 50 years of age and 30 years of service.

325 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there are sub-assistant surgeons still in service of over 50 years of age and 30 years of service who have not been compulsorily retired?

A.—There are a few sub-assistant surgeons of over 50 years of age and 30 years of service in the *selection* grade.

Promotions of compounders.

326 Q.—Mr. YAHYA ALI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state if no promotions were made of Compounders to the Selection grade in the Government Headquarter Hospital, Guntur?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. YAHYA ALI SAHIB:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Yes."

The allopathic dispensary at Tirukkarangudi.

327 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Shermadevi Taluk Board has resolved to close the allopathic dispensary at Tirukkarangudi;

(b) the reasons for such a step; and

(c) whether, under proper management, the chatram, from whose funds the dispensary was being maintained, would show an annual saving of about Rs. 3,000?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government understand that the Taluk Board has decided to close the dispensary on financial grounds.

(c) The President of the District Board has reported as follows in his administration report for 1922–23:—

"There was a marked decrease in the receipts of the Tirukkarangudi chatram which fell from Rs. 25,934 to Rs. 14,483, the outstanding arrears amounting to Rs. 17,700. The tenants are said to be refractory and much difficulty is said to be felt in collection. The account of the chatram closed with a deficit balance of Rs. 12,459. The Taluk Board has decided to reduce the expenditure by Rs. 3,000 per annum to wipe off the deficit balance in the course of a few years."

Appointment of a civil surgeon in the place of Dr. Nedungadi.

328 Q.—The RAJA OF RAMNAD: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state why, on the retirement of Dr. Nedungadi, a military assistant surgeon was confirmed as civil surgeon without one in the regular line being promoted to fill up the said vacancy?

[8th February 1924

A.—No Military Assistant Surgeon has been confirmed as Civil Surgeon in the place of Dr. Nedungadi.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" My question is ' why on the retirement of Dr. Nedungadi, a military assistant surgeon was confirmed as civil surgeon without one in the regular line being promoted to fill up the said vacancy.' But the answer is that ' no military assistant surgeon has been confirmed as civil surgeon in the place of Dr. Nedungadi '. Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government kindly give a more appropriate answer ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The answer given here is to the question that was already put, but if the hon. Member wants any further information at this stage, I should like to have notice to answer."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" I am not asking for further information, but I am asking for a more appropriate answer."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government has asked for notice of any further question that may be asked but the hon. Member the Raja of Ramnad is insisting that his question bears a certain meaning which the answer shows that the hon. the Minister has not understood, because the Raja of Ramnad says it is not appropriate. I too think that it is capable of another meaning, and the hon. Member had better put another question making his meaning clear, namely, that by the words ' on his retirement ' he meant something else than ' in his place '.

Colonel Harley, I.M.S.

329 *Q.*—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to make Colonel Harley a 1st Surgeon ?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I think that my questions are mutilated beyond recognition even by their author. I made no reference to Colonel Harley's appointment as 1st Surgeon. I thought I must bring this matter to your notice, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I understand that the hon. Member was communicated with about the curtailment of his question. Is that not so ? "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" True, Sir. But only certain questions were disallowed, which I agreed to. But my submission is that this question is one of the several others which remain to be answered. I sent a series of questions with regard to three gentlemen, Major Bradfield, Colonel Chowdari and Colonel Harley. One communication was received by me in which certain questions regarding statistical details as to the operations and other things conducted by Major Bradfield were asked to be omitted. I have received no communication other than that, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Was not the hon. Member informed that those parts of the question which bore on the number of operations, etc., were disallowed for certain reasons mentioned in the communication to him ? "